

# FOUR GERMAN WARSHIPS SUNK IN ENGAGEMENT

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## REPUBLICAN FARMER.

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# BAKER REVIEWS VETERAN TROOPERS; VISITS BIRTHPLACE OF JEANNE D'ARC

## FRENCH AND BRITISH WIN NAVAL BATTLE

Fast Teuton Fleet Had  
Bombarded Dunkirk  
for 10 Minutes.

NO ALLIED SHIPS  
REPORTED SUNK

Survivors of Lost Hun  
Torpedo Vessels Are  
Rescued by Allies.

London, March 21.—Two enemy destroyers and two enemy torpedo boats have been sunk by a force of five British and French destroyers, the admiralty announces. One British destroyer was damaged. The engagement occurred off Dunkirk this morning. The British casualties were slight. There were no French casualties.

The announcement follows: "Vice Admiral Dour reports that an action occurred off Dunkirk between 4 and 5 o'clock this morning. Two British and three French destroyers were engaged with a force of German destroyers which had previously bombarded Dunkirk for 10 minutes. Two enemy destroyers and two enemy torpedo boats are believed to have been sunk. Survivors have been picked up from two enemy torpedo boats.

"No Allied vessels were sunk. One British destroyer was damaged but reached harbor. The British casualties were slight. There were no French casualties."

### MARTIAL LAW IN RUSS PROVINCES

London, March 20.—The Ukrainian national council has declared martial law in the province of Poltava, Tchernigov and Khar'kov, says a Reuters dispatch from Petrograd. Freight traffic has been resumed on parts of the railroad lines near the Baltic, held by the Germans. The Russian orthodox church has presented a demand that the Russo-German peace treaty prescribe its authority over the orthodox populations in the territories lost through the peace treaty.

The Austro-German advance north of the Black sea recently has been in the provinces of Poltava, Tchernigov and Khar'kov. Parts of these provinces are not included in the Ukraine, although the boundaries of the new country have not been fixed definitely.

### TO INVESTIGATE ATTACK REPORTS

Petrograd, Wednesday, March 20.—(By the Associated Press)—Kremenchuk, Minsk and Homodan, in Southern Russia, are being evacuated by government forces. A Russian commission has left here for Pskov to investigate reports of attacks on German troops. Armenian colonies in Turkestan and the trans-Caspian districts have declared a general mobilization. The Soviet Council of the Republic of the Don has levied a contribution of 5,000,000 doubles on local capitalists.

## GEN. WOOD AND MAJOR BELL ARRIVE IN PORT

An Atlantic Port, March 21.—Major Gen. Leonard Wood and Maj. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, commanders respectively of the 80th and 77th divisions of the national army, arrived here today from France.

### ANOTHER CHANCE FOR VOLUNTEERS TO AVOID DRAFT

Bridgeport draft registrants have another chance to enter the service by voluntary induction. Sanford Stoddard, publicity representative of the six local boards, announced today that men could volunteer to go with the quota leaving the city on March 30 by applying to their local boards. Application must be made before Saturday, because on that day notices will be sent to the men called. The city's quota will be 146 men.

## HUN BOMBARDMENT ROCKS DOVER

### Trotzky Now Wants To Be War Minister And Fight Invaders

ARRIVES IN MOSCOW FROM PETROGRAD AND  
FINDS INHABITANTS OF THE CITY READY  
TO RESIST GERMANS—MOSCOW STARTS  
PREPARATIONS TO DEFEND ITSELF.

Moscow, Tuesday, March 19.—(By the Associated Press).—The uneasiness caused by the seizure of Odessa and the gaining by the Central Powers of control of the Black Sea has intensified the panic in North Russia and has strengthened the now general belief that in a short time the Germans will advance on Moscow and Petrograd.

### EXPANDS CHEST SEVEN INCHES; BREAKS RECORD

New Haven, March 21.—When examining Earl E. Tucker of Hebron at the army recruiting station here today it was found that the station record for chest expansion had been broken. Tucker three times expanded his chest nearly seven inches. He is 18 years and six months old and weighs 138 pounds. The station has been turning away men who have applied for enlistment on recommendation of local draft boards in spite of the fact that draft men are not permitted to volunteer in this way. It has been necessary to call draft boards' attention to paragraph 15 of the selective draft regulations. Draft men have been sent here with travelling expenses and meal money furnished. The men have to go back home.

### INTENSE BOMBARDMENT ON CHAMPAGNE FRONT

Paris, March 21.—There has been an intense and sustained bombardment of the sectors north and south-east of Rheims as well as on the Champagne front, the war office announced today.

### JAPS GATHERING AT MANZANILLO

Manzanillo, Mexico, Mar. 21.—Many Japanese from all parts of Mexico are concentrating here and at other Pacific coast ports, awaiting steamers to take them to San Francisco. Although they are reticent about their reasons for leaving Mexico it has been learned that they are answering a call to the colors from their government. Recruits also are being called from other countries of North, South, and Central America, they say.

### PET BULLDOGS DIE WITH VICTIM OF GAS POISON

Dr. J. F. Keegan, of the Emergency Hospital, had a wild, but futile race with death shortly before noon today when a call was sent in from 183 South avenue, saying that Mrs. Elizabeth Kruger was found in bed unconscious from the effects of gas poisoning. Dr. Keegan and the driver of the ambulance had narrow escapes from serious injury, as the powerful machine made one of its most sensational runs through the crowded city streets, but upon arrival at the Kruger home it was found that the victim had passed beyond the stage where the pulmotor would snatch her back to life. Two pet bulldogs owned by Mrs. Kruger were found under the bed, one of them dead and the other barely alive. This gave Dr. Keegan evidence that the woman had not been dead many moments before he arrived on the scene. While the physician was searching for any spark of life that might give hope of saving the woman, Charles Kruger, a son, came in and a touching scene ensued as he realized that his mother was dead. According to neighbors the escaping gas was discovered by Louis Labinsky, a man, whom Mrs. Kruger had told to come to the house today for some old clothing which she wanted removed. Gas was pouring from an open gas cock in the kitchen range which apparently the victim had turned on and forgot about. Labinsky turned off the gas immediately and telephoned to the Emergency Hospital, telling Dr. Keegan of the urgency of the case.

### TURKS STARTING NEW MASSACRES OF CHRISTIANS

Berne, Switzerland, Saturday, March 16.—Reports received here from 15 points in Asiatic Turkey by William N. Chambers, representative of the American committee for Armenian and Syrian relief, corroborate recent advice respecting new massacres on a large scale by the Turks. "From reliable sources I understand the situation in the districts being reoccupied by the Turks is terrible," said Mr. Chambers. "On the pretext that Armenian bands are at work the Turks are carrying out general and bloody reprisals. There is serious apprehension that similar atrocities are begun in the Caucasus." "The number of orphans for which the American committee is caring is growing steadily," said Mr. Chambers. "All the resources of the people deported by the Turks are exhausted, and the gravity of the situation is increasing. It is dollars or death, and America cannot afford to hesitate in this great humane effort to save the remnant of the persecuted Christians in Turkey."

### CLAIMS SURRENDER OF WAR MUNITIONS

Moscow, Tuesday, March 19.—(By the Associated Press).—Germany has increased her demand on Rumania and now asks that Rumania surrender to the Central powers all of her own war munitions as well as those left in Rumania by Allied troops. All the Entente ministers remain in Jassy, but will leave there if Rumania surrenders the war munitions to Germany.

### SAMMIES COME TO GRIPS WITH HUNS IN RAID

With the American Army in France, Wednesday, March 20.—(By the Associated Press).—American troops in the sector east of Launelleville, participated tonight in a raid on German trenches, penetrating the enemy lines for some distance. Hand to hand fighting ensued. The raiders returned to the American lines after about 40 minutes. Further details are unavailable at this hour (10 p. m.). The raid was carried out in conjunction with French troops, after a brief but intense barrage. The Germans retaliated with a heavy fire of gas and high explosive shells on the American batteries.

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### FISHERMAN WILL ENTER PROTEST

Halifax, N. S., March 21.—Lobster fishermen of Nova Scotia today preparing to make an organized protest against the embargo by express companies on shipments of lobsters from New England to points outside, as announced in Boston recently. Many of the Nova Scotia fishermen fitted out last year at a cost of nearly \$700 a man and they fear great loss from low prices because of the embargo, since more than one-half of the lobster demand is said to be in the Middle West.

### M. I. T. JUNIORS TO GRADUATE EARLIER

Cambridge, Mass., March 21.—Plans for the graduation of the present junior class at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in January, 1919, were announced by the faculty today. The graduation five months before the usual time is to allow the students opportunity to enter government or military service in which their technical training will be of value.

### SMITH COLLEGE TO INCREASE RATES

Northampton, Mass., March 21.—Beginning next September, Smith college will increase its tuition fee from \$150 to \$200 in order to meet increased cost of maintenance. In making this announcement today college authorities said that some colleges already had taken similar action and that others had added a maintenance fee.

Teuton Artillery Pounds  
British Line on West  
Front This Morning.

### CONCUSSION ROCKS HOUSES IN ENGLAND

May Presage Opening of  
Hun Offensive—Tiles  
Fall From Roofs.

London, March 21.—The Germans shortly before dawn today began a heavy bombardment over a wide section of the British front, it is announced officially. The artillery action on the western front could be distinctly heard in Dover and other towns on the eastern coast of England. The doors and windows of the houses in Dover, for instance, were continuously shaken by the heavy concussions.

The firing, which was the heaviest that has been heard in this district from such a distance, began three o'clock this morning and lasted at brief intervals until 7 a. m. In Ramsgate, besides the sound of the cannonading, bright flashes were seen at sea, while the vibration of the explosions shook the windows and dislodged tiles from the roofs.

### DEPTH BOMB ON U. S. DESTROYER EXPLODES; 3 DIE

Washington, March 21.—Explosion of a depth bomb aboard the American destroyer Manley when the vessel collided with a British warship in European waters on March 19, killed the American commander and three enlisted men and wounded 11 others. Both ships were damaged.

In announcing the accident today the navy department gave no further details and withheld the location.

Lieut. Commander Richard McCall Elliott, Jr., was killed. His wife lives in New York.

The enlisted men killed were Cecil Hall, Charleston, W. Va.; Boatwain's Mate Lewis Cohen, New York city; Water Tender Charles Magoni, West Springfield, Mass.

The following enlisted men were seriously injured: Electrician Edward Chester Landwehr, Elizabeth, N. J.; Charles Pierce, engine man, Lake Crystal, Minn.; Richard Lawson, engine man, Orange, N. J.; Clarence F. Dechenne, fireman, Joplin, Mo.; Carl Cecil Russell, seaman, Stockton, Cal.; Richard S. Gallmann, seaman, Troth, S. C.; Albert Wallace Cecil, fireman, St. Louis, Mo.

The following were slightly injured: Ralph H. Christie, yeoman, Calais, Me.; John D. Mercer, fireman, Varnado, La.; Edward Henry Peters, seaman, New Haven; Joseph F. Gunn, fireman, South Minneapolis, Minn.

### SLAVS RETIRE AFTER ATTACK UPON GERMANS

Petrograd, Monday, March 18.—(By the Associated Press).—Russia's total war expenditures now are 50,599,275,000 roubles.

Russian troops in the Pskov sector have retired 10 versts. A German ultimatum having been presented to them as a result of an attack on German troops. In consequence of the disorganization of transport, an aerial postal service between Petrograd, Moscow and the Crimea and between Petrograd and Sweden is planned for the near future. It is reported that the Ukrainian government is negotiating a loan from German banks.

STANDING ON HIGH PLATEAU, HIS HEAD BARED TO THE WIND, BAKER IS DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY STURDY AMERICAN BRIGADE — COMPLIMENTS GENERAL PERSHING AND OTHER OFFICERS — QUESTIONS MEN REGARDING FOOD AND FINDS WITH ONE EXCEPTION NO COMPLAINT — INSPECTS AMERICANS WHEREVER BILLETED.

With the American Army in France, Wednesday, March 20.—(By the Associated Press).—Secretary of War Baker concluded today his visit of inspection to the American military zones in France with a trip which took him from the Verdun sector to great headquarters and included a review of one brigade of the First division, which he addressed as representative of the whole army.

The secretary also visited the birthplace of Jeanne d'Arc and made an incidental inspection of the troops here and there over the route which he traversed. Tonight the secretary departed to fulfill other aspects of his visit to France.

The brigade of the First division was reviewed from a stage on a high plateau commanding a wide panorama of one of the most scenically beautiful parts of France. It is reached by a steep winding road from the valley below. A 20-hour rain had made it inaccessible by motor, so the secretary and his party made the ascent on foot, slipping and sliding on the grassy mud.

Just as they arrived at the stand Gen. Pershing and his personal staff came across the field and dismounted. The entire party then joined the waiting division and brigade generals and their staffs.

A cold March wind and occasional squalls of rain made the scene more impressive as the brigade, in full marching equipment, swept by at company front, each saluting like clockwork while bands played music that swelled and softened in the gusty wind. Secretary Baker lifted his hat to each regimental flag as it was lowered in salute and occasionally spoke to Gen. Pershing, who stood beside him.

This brigade from the First division to put foot in France was composed of men seasoned in training under summer and winter skies and endured to mud and cold under all conditions of campaigning. They were the first in the trenches and the first to suffer casualties. Under the weight of full field equipment, from trench tools to extra tools, steel helmeted, tanned and fit, these soldiers stepped swingingly through the sticky mud that was almost too much for the mules that drew the one-pounders and the wheeled kitchens.

It was the first time that an entire brigade which had been in action had been reviewed and the secretary complimented the general commanding and the colonels of the various units. When the review was completed the brigade and commissioned officers assembled in a semi-circle and were presented in a body to the war secretary by Gen. Pershing in a brief address in which he complimented their record of fitness and efficiency.

Secretary Baker, with bare head in the cold wind, told the officers they were typical American soldiers, and said they were "the point of the wedge of the army which the whole American people is driving into the ranks of their adversaries." The officers then formed in line and each shook hands with the secretary as his name was announced. The secretary acknowledged each greeting and when some acquaintance approach he added a personal word or two.

Gen. Pershing showed gratification at the splendid condition and appearance of the brigade.

### TWO TEUTONS ARRESTED FOR UNPATRIOTIC TALK

Every German alien in Bridgeport must live up to the war regulations or suffer the consequences as the local office of the Department of Justice is rounding up all violators which are brought to their attention.

Two German aliens were arrested this morning by Agent Lane and will probably be interned for the period of the war.

John H. Treptow of 285 William street, who has been operating a jitney, was taken into custody for violation of the attorney general's rules regarding the operation of motor vehicle by enemy aliens. Treptow was born in Germany in 1876 and has been in the United States since 1912. He showed no disposition to comply with the rules set forth, having continued to operate his jitney within the city limits both day and night. William Wilke of 277 Scofield avenue, a structural iron worker employed at Bullards, was arrested by Agent Lane this morning at the Astor Hotel in John street. Wilke was born in Germany in 1874 and came to this country in 1904. For the past several days he had been drinking heavily. He is said to have made many remarks about the United States. He served in the German army six years.

### ASK HIGH SCHOOL BOYS TO BECOME HOME GUARDS MEN

High school boys in the senior class were invited to join the Bridgeport division, Fourth Regiment, Connecticut Home Guards, by Captain J. A. H. Robinson and Lieut. J. A. Hurley in the high school auditorium today. The value of training afforded by the Home Guard in fitting the boys for army service was explained by Captain Robinson. Several hundred high school boys are eligible to join the Home Guards.